

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

In complete response to the Official Action dated November 9, 2010, on the above identified application, reconsideration is respectfully requested. Claims 12, 13, and 20 - 22 are pending in this application. With this application, claims 12, 17, and 22 are currently amended, and claims 14 – 16 have been cancelled.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112:

Claim 22 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 22 has been amended to remedy this deficiency.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102:

Claims 12 and 21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Stringaro '542. Applicant has amended independent claim 12 to contain all the elements of allowable claim 16, thereby rendering this rejection moot.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103:

Claims 14 and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over EP 0885 653. Applicant has amended independent claim 12 (upon which claims 14 and 15 are dependent) to contain all the elements of allowable claim 16, thereby rendering this rejection moot.

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, it is believed that the present application now stands in condition for allowance. Early notice to this effect is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner believe a telephone call would expedite the prosecution of the application, he is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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